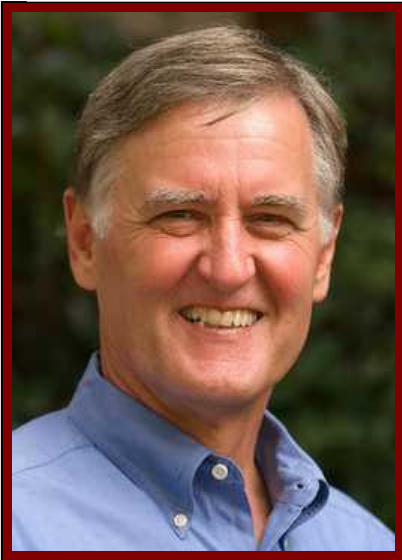




Vote Today!

The Morgan County Registrar's Office is open every day this week, Oct. 30 through Nov. 3, during business hours for early voting. No reason or photo ID is needed. **JUST DO IT!**

At the Registrar's Office, behind the old jail. 342-2508
Call 342-2929 if you need a ride.



Mike Thurmond, Educators, Nurses, endorse Bruce Gilbert for GA Senate

With mere days separating crowds of voters from voting machines, Bruce Gilbert and his campaign team tenaciously assessed, planned, and implemented campaign strategies as Gilbert for Senate TV and radio commercials hit the airways.

The campaign was buoyed by several important endorsements in the last weeks before the election. They included a well-known and respected Democratic state official, a nurses' group, and an educators' group.

Michael Thurmond, Georgia's Labor Commissioner, announced his support of Gilbert.

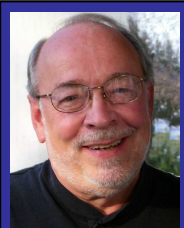
The Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists formally endorsed Gilbert, as did the Georgia Association of Educators. With 40,000 members, the GAE is the only major education employee representative with an active political action program.

The GAE members work hard through voluntary contributions and support for candidates to ensure friends of public education are elected to public office.

Gilbert addresses District 25

A great opportunity awaits voters on November 7 - a chance to elect someone with a proven, successful record of working with others. For 16 years I served as Mayor of Madison and for 15 years prior as a city council member. I am proud that during my tenure Madison was named the best small town in America.

I am also proud that I served in the U.S. Army Reserves for 20 years and was recipient of the Outstanding Military Citizen Award. I am proud that I got up early. Please see **GILBERT** next page



VOTE EARLY

The courts have once again ruled that NO picture identification will be required for the November 7th election. The same forms of ID that we have honored for the past many years will still be accepted.

The ballot is LONG. We have a long list of offices and quite a few constitutional amendments to decide. So, get a sample ballot from *The Morgan County Citizen* and prepare your choices before going to the polls. Because of the ballot's length and complexity, the lines and waits at the polling places are also likely to be very long. So, remember that ANYONE can vote from Monday October 30th to Friday November 3rd at the Voter Registrar's office behind the Courthouse. I highly recommend voting early to avoid the crowds and delays. Remember too, that you may also request an absentee ballot.

It is especially important this year that everyone votes. Bruce Gilbert has a very good chance to win the 25th State Senate Seat. And in light of the tremendous mess the Bush administration has made these past six years, 2006 should be the best year for Democrats to bring honesty and reason back to elected office.

Ted Arnold

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

GILBERT from previous page every morning to drive our local children to school for 26 years, while running a successful hardware store in downtown Madison despite competition from larger stores.

My policy is to treat people with respect, to listen, and to work openly and honestly, and I feel that is why I have succeeded as councilman, mayor and small business owner.

Voters say that they want lower taxes and better schools, but Johnny Grant voted to cut school funding by millions which raised local property taxes. Voters say they want better health care, but Johnny Grant voted to eliminate coverage for breast cancer and autism screenings and certain cancer therapies from health insurance plans just to save HMOs a few bucks. Voters say they want to look out for our seniors, but Johnny Grant voted to seize the property of our seniors in nursing homes to pay a death tax.

All these votes were made in less than two years.

The difference between Johnny Grant and me is that I will work for you. Johnny Grant has not.

Bruce Gilbert

Problem Thinking

By Ben K.

It started out innocently enough. I began to think at parties now and then just to loosen up. Inevitably, though, one thought led to another, and soon I was more than just a social thinker.

I began to think alone to relax, I told myself but I knew it wasn't true. Thinking became more and more important to me, and finally I was thinking all the time.

That was when things started to sour at home. One evening I turned off the TV and asked my wife about the meaning of life. She spent that night at her mother's. I began to think on the job. I knew that thinking and employment don't mix, but I couldn't help myself. I began to avoid friends at lunchtime so I could read Thoreau, Muir, Confucius, and Kafka. I would return to the office dizzied and confused, asking, "What is it exactly we are doing here?"

One day the boss called me in. He said, "Listen, I like you and it hurts me to say this, but your thinking has become a real problem. If you don't stop thinking on the job, you'll have to find another job." This gave me a lot to think about. I came home early after my conversation with the boss. "Honey," I confessed, "I've been thinking....." "I know you've been thinking," she said, "and I want a divorce!" "But, Honey, surely it's not that serious." "It is serious," she said. "You think as much as college professors, and college professors don't make any money, so if you keep on thinking, we won't have any money!" "That's a faulty syllogism," I said impatiently. She exploded in tears of rage and frustration, but I was in no mood to deal with the emotional drama. "I'm going to the library," I snarled as I stomped out the door.

I headed for the library, in the mood for some Nietzsche. I roared into the parking lot with NPR on the radio and ran up to the big glass doors. They didn't open; the library was closed. To this day, I believe that a higher power was looking out for me that night. Leaning on the unfeeling glass, whimpering for Zarathustra, a poster caught my eye: FRIEND, IS HEAVY THINKING RUINING YOUR LIFE? You probably recognize that line. It comes from the standard Thinkers Anonymous poster.

That is why I am what I am today: a recovering thinker. I never miss a TA meeting. At each meeting we watch a non-educational video. Then we share experiences about how we avoided thinking since the last meeting. I still have my job, and things are a lot better at home. Life just seems well, easier, some how, as soon as I stopped thinking. I think the road to recovery is nearly complete for me. Today I took the final step: I joined the Republican Party.

If you would like to receive this quarterly newsletter by mail and receive email notices, please email us at morgancodems@yahoo.com or call (706) 342-1011.

Democratic Candidates on the local ballot

Governor Mark Taylor

Lt. Governor Jim Martin

Secretary of State Gail Buckner

Attorney General Thurbert Baker

Commissioner of Agriculture

Tommy Irvin

Commissioner of Insurance

Guy Drexinger

State School Superintendent

Denise Majette

Commissioner of Labor

Mike Thurmond

Public Service Commissioner

David Burgess

Public Service Commissioner

Dawn Randolph

U. S. Congress Terry Holley

State Senator Bruce Gilbert

State Representative Becky Vaughn

To make a donation to the Morgan County Democratic Party, contact Committee Treasurer **Emmie Smock** at nsmock@bellsouth.net (706) 343-1091

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The Voice is the official publication of the Morgan Co. GA Democratic Committee for its members, subscribers and friends.

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